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NW projects make award's short-list

Rio and Burrup Fertilisers engineering excellence

TWO major North West resource projects have been short-listed for the prestigious 2006 WA Engineering Excellence Awards.

Pilbara Iron's multi-berth iron ore wharf and Burrup Fertilisers' ammonia plant earned a spot in the final-28.

The wharf was the biggest component of Rio Tinto Iron Ore's \$US700-million Dampier Port Upgrade Project.

The project involved constructing a 450m long wharf extension to create two additional shipping berths and provision for a fourth berth.

In a world first, modular wharf decks were fabricated in Perth and shipped to Dampier, allowing the wharf to be completed three months ahead of schedule.

The Burrup Fertilisers and SNC-Lavalin project is the biggest single train ammonia plant in the world.

It produces six per cent of global production of ammonia, primarily for manufacturing fertiliser.

The plant is the first example of downstream processing of natural gas from the North West Shelf.

It is also the first industrial unit established following the WA Government's \$180-million common-user infrastructure package designed to attract investment to the Burrup Peninsula.

Award winners will be announced in September.